

# The Evening World

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## ONLY HALF WON.

THE tax exemption ordinance was passed yesterday by the Board of Aldermen in spite of the opposition of the Aldermanic President.

But the fight is anything but won. The line-up on yesterday's vote is a matter of serious concern. The ordinance still has to pass the Board of Estimate.

Besides the opposition from Mr. La Guardia, representatives of Borough Presidents Riegelmann, Van Name and Bruckner voted against the ordinance. Comptroller Craig with his three votes is also opposed.

At least three of these votes must be changed in order to pass the ordinance when it reaches the Board of Estimate.

At present it looks very much like the old game at which Special Privilege is so adept. These interests fight what they do not want in the more popular and responsive legislative body until public opinion overcomes them. Then they back up to the next line and fight it over again.

That was the appearance of La Guardia's disgraceful effort to force a secret vote yesterday with newspaper men excluded. He knew the Aldermen would not dare defeat the bill in open session.

Now is the time to get after the Board of Estimate members who are the second line of defense for those who profit through housing shortage.

"A misguided section of the Irish people," says King George, "persist in resorting to methods of criminal violence with the object of establishing an independent republic."

A very high but none the less misguided section of the British people persists in thinking that the Irish spirit can be crushed by random reprisals.

## AMERICANS STOOD IT.

WHEN the A. E. F. was returned to American soil every member, officers, privates, nurses and doctors, was required to undergo the operation of "dehousing."

With such a precedent, who will have the hardihood to object to a similar requirement for incoming immigrants from plague-stricken ports of Europe?

As a result of precautions taken with the army, this country was spared any epidemic resulting from demobilization. Is there anything unreasonable in asking those who seek admission to exercise similar care?

The reply to any who object is obvious: "If you do not care to come in on such terms, stay out."

New York is not alone in this need of adequate protection. Immigrants scatter all over the country. Infection from one unclean shipload might cause thousands of deaths and untold suffering.

## SUSPECT.

EVEN before the Fordney Fake Tariff Bill for the present session is killed, its author bobs up serenely with the announcement that he proposes to prepare a permanent measure for presentation at the special session.

The country has no reason to feel reassured by the announcement. The man who sponsored the present measure proved himself either incompetent or untrustworthy by permitting the inclusion of jokers and tricky paragraphs galore. The Fordney Fake was not even an honest "protection" bill.

The next bill which Mr. Fordney sponsors is burdened at the outset with a heavy handicap of justifiable suspicion.

## KEEP LOCAL OPTION OUT.

GOV. MILLER and the Legislature are no longer so certain of the advisability of abolishing daylight-saving in the State.

The Governor and the legislators know right well that a majority of the people will resent the loss of the hour of daylight—if they lose it. The millions in this city and in the other cities of the State are not organized to express their will, but they will not forget or forgive a repeal of the present law.

Albany is between two fires. The farmers definitely want the old discarded system. Urban dwellers want daylight-saving for five months instead of seven.

Being politicians, the first thought of the gentlemen at Albany is to seek a compromise. So they suggest "local option" on the question.

Local option on such a question is considerably worse than either alternative. Ask any New York commuter whose home is in Connecticut. With local option within a State the same confusion would be multiplied a hundredfold.

The logical and sensible thing is to have daylight-saving in the whole Eastern standard-time belt. The farmers can rearrange their working hours and enforce a later quitting time this year, when hired help is abundant. The cities can do as they have done for several years.

Statewide daylight-saving would be in the interest of the great majority of the voters of the

State of New York. But if that is impossible, then let the minority rule, but don't let us have the farcical expense and nuisance of "local option."

## A QUESTION.

MUNICIPAL home rule does not show up strongly in Gov. Miller's official outline of his transit bill.

Compelling voice in the settlement is given the city in exactly two matters—the fixing of routes and the pledging of municipal credit. In neither case would the State Constitution permit less.

Influence the city would exert, inasmuch as its approval of transit plans is to be asked. But neither its approval nor disapproval would be legally binding on the action of the proposed State Transit Commission.

Representation for the city is undoubtedly implied in the provision that the three members of the commission shall be men from Greater New York.

But the Governor would have his proposed Transit Commission last only for five years. After that its powers would be taken over by one Public Service Commission supervising public utilities throughout the State.

What guarantee has this city that it will always have the kind of representation on such a commission that would make municipal veto power undesirable or unnecessary?

Is a temporary condition to establish a permanent principle?

Where the Governor's bill provides that the city's approval of Transit Commission plans shall be asked, the exact words of the official summary must be studied.

After the proposed Transit Commission has used its discretion about adopting the suggestions of local authority in drawing up contracts with traction companies:

Upon the adoption of such contract or contracts the commission shall transmit the same to the local authority of the city and request its approval thereof. If such local authority shall refuse to approve such contract or contracts it shall, within thirty days from the date of the first meeting of the local authority following their receipt, return them to the commission with a statement of the reasons of such local authority for such refusal. The commission shall thereupon consider such reasons and, if so requested by the local authority, shall hold a further such public hearing upon such contract or contracts and such reasons for refusal. The commission shall make such changes in such contract or contracts as it may deem advisable and shall then resubmit them to such local authority for approval.

If within thirty days after the date of the first meeting of such local authority following the receipt of such contracts so resubmitted, the local authority shall refuse or neglect to approve the same, or if upon the original submission of such contract or contracts to the local authority it shall not approve the same, and neglect to return them to the commission as above provided, the commission may in the name and in behalf of the city execute and deliver such contract or contracts with full legal force and effect, as if all approvals by the local authority and by any local officer had been given.

Careful reading of the above can leave but one conclusion:

Under Gov. Miller's plan as elaborated or modified to date, the city's power is strictly limited to the pressure it can exert through public hearings and public discussion.

In a word: Gov. Miller's idea is that the principle of home rule will be sufficiently preserved in the moral pressure the Board of Estimate can put upon the new State Transit Commission by means of recommendation or criticism made in the interest of the city.

Query: Wouldn't the principle of home rule be more fairly and consistently preserved in the moral pressure a State Transit Commission might bring to bear upon a Board of Estimate which retained the power of veto—the pressure in this latter case being the full facts of present traction conditions as ascertained by a new Transit Commission plus an argument for proposed remedies presented first of all for the enlightenment and appraisal of the population directly concerned?

The pressure of public opinion ought to be the strongest force in local self-government.

Why not safeguard the latter by simply reversing the way in which Gov. Miller would have the former applied?

The little eight-year-old girl who talked continuously for more than 200 hours is a promising candidate for the United States Senate when she grows older. She has the principal qualification.

However, her partial recovery may bar her. She now speaks only when she is spoken to. Few see her recover. Most of them have the misadventure chronic form.

# Helping?

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By John Cassel



## From Evening World Readers

What kind of a letter do you find most readable? Isn't the one that gives you the worth of a thousand words in a couple of hundred? There is fine mental exercise and a lot of satisfaction in trying to say much in a few words. Take time to be brief.

### The Rent Laws.

To the Editor of The Evening World:  
I am glad to see you on guard again, ready to sound the alarm when the contemplated grand assault on the emergency rent laws begins. The Lord knows we need a vigilant and alert sentinel like your esteemed paper to safeguard those precious laws enacted largely through your instrumentality.

The callous indifference of a majority of the other papers, the criminal stupidity of the people themselves, the servile acquiescence of some of our legislators would make it a comparatively easy task for the "rent hogs" to nullify these dearly won measures of relief. Those who watch Albany can hear the howling of the wolf pack, as they get once more the scent of the hapless tenant.

"Benevolent amelioration of the restrictive rent laws" is brought by these tenant-squeezing philanthropists. They just want to squeeze in three or four little exceptions to "perfect" the existing laws.

A FRIEND.

### How Long?

To the Editor of The Evening World:  
How long will it continue?

Knowing this question to be uppermost in the minds of every conservative housewife in the Flatbush and Coney Island districts, with reference to the price we are charged for gas by the Brooklyn Borough Gas Company and knowing that I am voiceless in the sentiment of every housewife within these districts, I wish to say that the gas expense is the hardest and most oppressive item the housewife has to meet today.

Having a quarter meter I can truthfully say that in the purchase of no other household necessity will the quarter buy as little as in the purchase of gas.

It is to be regretted that with flour, sugar and other commodities down in price, we must deprive our families of the enjoyment of home baking because of the prohibitive price of gas.

How soon will the Public Service Commission do something for the residents of these districts and stop gas profiteering?

A HOMELESS RESIDENT.

Brooklyn, Feb. 14, 1921.

### 25-Cent Gallery Seats.

To the Editor of The Evening World:

I have read what Augustus Thomas has to say about the return of the 25-cent admission to the gallery for boys and men—the so-called family circle.

While it is very commendable on Mr. Thomas's part to be so solicitous for boys and men who love the theatre, I hope he doesn't express any anxiety about girls and women. I don't see that this return to 25 cents would help the theatre at all. The family circle is mostly filled with girls and women who are not financially able to pay \$2.50 or \$2.75 for the sixteenth row in the orchestra, the seats ahead of this row being in the hands of the ticket agencies and the speculators, working in league with the box office man, at higher prices.

and these girls and women would

be deprived of the pleasure of attending the theatre because they would find the family circle very objectionable, as the 25-cent admission would be the means of attracting rough-necks.

I have often heard my father speak of the annoying goings on of the rowdies in the gallery, oftentimes upsetting the play and disturbing the audience downstairs. Of course, if Mr. Thomas is anxious to bring back this obnoxious condition, then by all means bring about the return of the 25-cent admission.

If the price was 75 cents for the first two rows and 50 cents for the remainder, as heretofore, instead of \$1.10 for week nights and \$1.65 on Saturday nights and holidays, Mr. Thomas would find every seat in the family circle filled with people who know a good play when they see it and who can appreciate fine work on the part of actor and actress and show it by applause instead of hissing, etc.

JANE WRIGHT.

New York, Feb. 13, 1921.

### The Poor Traction Companies.

To the Editor of The Evening World:

How can "J. F. Cryan" take up your valuable space asking sympathy for the "poor" transit companies and their embarrassment over an inadequate fare.

According to his argument a 5-cent fare is a snare and a delusion; it gave them excessive profits for years and years, however, with no return to the public in the way of service or comfort.

And does he imagine that an 8-cent fare is going to help in any way to lower our taxes, rents, etc., or benefit the citizens in the least? He is sunstruck, been standing in the glare of the Subway Sun so long.

Wake up, J. F. C. Keep your sympathy for fellow citizens, the ones who ride in the subway, not for those plutocrats who ride down in their sedans, and don't worry when they get there, either, who are just aware that the source of their dividends may be taken away altogether and want to squeeze the poor public out of the last penny on the pretext of helping—yes, helping themselves.

M. R. H.

Yonkers, Feb. 14, 1921.

### "A Mere Banquet."

To the Editor of The Evening World:

A literary lady contributed a long essay one night last week on Bolshevism in operation in Russia, and in particular on its laws relating to marriage. So it appears to the lady to be an ideal arrangement to allow divorce by the merest mutual consent and for the merest incompatibility. Just rush to the district boss of matters of the kind, tell him "We're tired of each other" and hear "Go in peace, your claims may be left here."

For sheer unlikeliness I have never

## UNCOMMON SENSE

By John Blake

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### "BASE GAINS ARE LOSSES."

Nearly three thousand years ago Hesiod wrote the maxim that heads this article. Whether it was based on his own experience or on his study of the experience of others there is no means of knowing. But it was perfectly true in that day, as it is in this.

It is, in fact, merely another way of stating that getting something for nothing is not only immoral but foolish.

The gambler, whether he is a stock gambler or a race track gambler or the kind of a business gambler who takes long and foolish chances, would be better off if he never won.

Easy money is as dangerous as dynamite. The man who gets it spends the rest of his life after more of the same kind. He ceases to work and his mind soon loses the power to work.

His easy money is soon spent. More of the same kind is not to be had. But the mischief is done. The habit of industry, if it ever existed, is gone. And the receiver of base gains spends the rest of his life toiling feverishly for a little money to invest in more wildcat speculations.

There is no real prosperity that is not founded on industry. No man is ever secure in a permanent income who does not fit himself to earn an income early in life.

Cheating, taking undue advantage, playing just outside the law may, and often does, bring riches to a few men. But these riches seldom endure, and he who gets them soon becomes about as worthless a member of the human race as you can find.

Not all men can make fortunes, but all men ought to be able to make a living, provided nature has given them good health.

But they can make a certain living only by good, wholesome, honest effort, paying with what they give for what they get, and constantly seeking to make themselves worth more.

Recently a symposium of the opinions of twenty successful men in New York was printed in a Sunday newspaper. Every one of them gave hard work as a recipe for success, and every one of them could prove that it was hard work which lifted them out of the ranks of poverty.

The race does not change much. Thousands of years before Hesiod the same truth was probably written by some student of life. It will be written again thousands of years from now. And those who heed and profit by it will be the really successful inhabitants of the earth.

no doubt under the impression that she has been doing some thinking. She may indeed have been, but I am ungrateful enough to suggest that she is in President Wilson's newest phrase "a mere banquet—no upper story at all." She has done no reading, that is sure.

Society, even among the black fellows in South Africa or the bushmen in Australia, has always made a difference between legitimate and illegitimate children. And if the lady thinks she is saying anything really new, as she seems to intimate in "all forward looking people look to see the winning out of any state law of illegitimacy," etc., she should read the history of the race, out of which Judahism and Christianity alike have striven to draw the race, and with no little degree of success.

While the last previous great outbreak of Bolshevism, known as the French Revolution, was at its very height many "thinkers," to whom thinking was a novelty and history a closed book, pondered in the French law-making houses of the time on these very subjects, passed just such laws as the lady seems to admire, and found that the human race has made too much progress to be fooled by any proposal to revert to savage animism, which is exactly what this lady proposes. It is merely old damnation cropping up again.

ROBERT F. GREEN.  
New York, Feb. 14, 1921.

## The World's Oldest Love Stories

By Maubert St. Georges

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### "HAVELOCK AND GOLD-BOROUGH."

IN Denmark long ago there lived a King named Birkabeyn. While yet in early manhood he died, leaving behind him two daughters and a son. Godard, a nobleman who had been named Regent, decided to obtain the throne for himself. The two daughters he slew, but his heart failed him when it came the turn of Havelock, the boy, and he handed him over to a fisherman, with orders to drown him. The fisherman, however, did not obey him, but, in fear of his life, fled with his family and Havelock to England.

Meanwhile in England a somewhat similar fate had befallen Goldborough, the daughter of Athelwold, the King. The latter, in dying, had left her in charge of the Earl of Godrich, making him promise to marry her to the highest, best, fairest and strongest man in the land. Upon the King's death, however, Godrich had simply imprisoned the girl and secluded her from her friends.

In England, Havelock rapidly grew up to be a huge, handsome man. But the fisherman was having a hard task in keeping all his dependents alive, so one day Havelock went off to Lincoln to earn his own living. Here he obtained a position as cook's boy to Bertram, Earl Godrich's cook, who treated him kindly, giving him clothes and food, but no money.

One day at a fair given by the Earl, Bertram, proud of his mighty scullion, urged Havelock to take part, and the latter easily won all the contests and thus drew to himself the attention of Godrich. On seeing him, the latter had an inspiration. "Here," thought he, "is the highest, fairest, best and strongest man in England. He had Goldborough and Havelock brought to him and by threats of torture forced them to marry. Then he dismissed them knowing that all men must now acknowledge that the girl could have no further claim to the throne."

At the sight of the beautiful girl who had become his wife, ambition arose in Havelock's breast. First he rejoined the fisherman and with his help returned to Denmark. He made his way to the lands of a noble called Ubbe, who was at enmity with the usurper Godard. At first Havelock hesitated to make himself known, uncertain of the welcome he would receive. But matters were decided for him. Some men, aroused by Goldborough's beauty, sought to carry her off. Havelock, however, slew them all, but was wounded in the arm. While he was being bound up a cross was discovered tattooed on his right shoulder and as this was the mark of the Kings of Denmark, Havelock's identity was discovered. Ubbe acknowledged him as King. Drawn over by Ubbe were many powerful nobles who between them raised a great army by means of which Godard was defeated. He was later captured and having been found guilty was put to death.

But Havelock was not satisfied. He raised another army and crossed over to England to assert his wife's rights. A terrible battle ensued against the vassals of Godrich who were finally vanquished and the usurper put to death. Having punished evil, Havelock now rewarded good. His old friend the cook Bertram, he made Earl of Cornwall, the fisherman's sons he made knights and lords, and his friend Ubbe was nominated Regent of Denmark. Himself, he ruled England with Goldborough for many years and had fifteen children who all, as history claims, became mighty Kings and Queens.

## Are You Observant?

WHAT PLACE IN NEW YORK CITY IS THIS?

Read the Answer in the Next of the Series.

Answer to previous Description—110th Street and Eighth Avenue.

As you swing up the avenue your walk, you come to the corner that you have not passed for several months. Or it may be that you glance from the surface car you have taken at the Grand Central Station. It suddenly occurs to you that there is a change. There is something missing. You study for a minute or a few seconds and then recall: It is the old church that stood on this avenue with its entrance to the basement on the side street. It is gone. In its place there has gone up the bachelor hotel. It has all happened in a few months in a district that is rebuilding rapidly and where old landmarks are passing. You realize as you crane your neck to count the stories that these things are happening in the city of which you know too little.

## "That's a Fact"

By Albert P. Southwick

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The first hospital in America was in Pennsylvania in 1751.

The sculptor H. Greenough made a colossal statue of George Washington.

T. Crawford, the American sculptor, made an equestrian statue of Washington for the city of Vienna, one of Beethoven for the Boston Music Hall, Boston, Mass.

The largest diamond in the world is owned by the Rains of Borneo and weighs 367 carats. The most famous is the Koh-i-Noor (106-1-16 carats), belonging to the Royal family of England, with an estimated value of \$700,000.

It is not generally known that diamonds can be crushed with a hammer or split on the edge of a knife.

In 1818, in Mercer County, Pa., ten children were born of a mother within twelve months—five at each time. The mother died about a year after the second birth, but meantime gave birth to twins, thus producing twelve children in twenty months. She was thirty-seven years old at her death.

The golden rod is the State flower of New York.